

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 1074

By Coley

A RESOLUTION to congratulate the members and leaders of the St. Mary's Episcopal School of Memphis Mock Trial Team upon winning the State Championship.

WHEREAS, it is fitting that this General Assembly should pause in its deliberations to recognize those outstanding educational organizations which, through their astounding success in competition, bring great honor to the State of Tennessee; and

WHEREAS, one such organization is the St. Mary's Episcopal School of Memphis Mock Trial Team, which recently claimed the 2008 Mock Trial State Championship; and

WHEREAS, in its fourth trip to the State finals, St. Mary's defeated Brentwood High School to win its second consecutive title; St. Mary's will now proudly represent Tennessee at the Nationals in Wilmington, Delaware; and

WHEREAS, sixteen high school teams from across Tennessee put their legal skills to the test during the Tennessee Bar Association's (TBA) annual competition in Nashville; about 200 students, teachers, and coaches and 200 others volunteered their time and expertise; and

WHEREAS, to reach the State finals, teams were required to win district competitions by playing the roles of attorneys and witnesses in a fictitious case developed by the TBA's Young Lawyers Division; and

WHEREAS, the members of this year's outstanding St. Mary's State Championship Mock Trial Team, all of whom are new members, include, Mollie Bussey-Spencer, Lane Feler, Susannah Griffee, Tyler Hyman, Sarah Jemison, Ariel Mason, Callie McCool, and Kimi Nathani; and

WHEREAS, the team members are most grateful for the leadership of their coach, Jennifer Nichols, a former prosecutor and current attorney with the USPS; also indispensable to

the team's progress toward this victory was the support of sponsor Pam Guinn, Chief Financial Officer for St. Mary's Episcopal School; and

WHEREAS, it is fitting that this legislative body should pause to commend the superlative talent and effort displayed by each team member and leader in participating in an important activity that provides the opportunity to learn firsthand about the work of trial attorneys, understand the judicial system, develop critical thinking skills, and enhance communication skills; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED FIFTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, that we hereby congratulate Coach Jennifer Nichols, Sponsor Pam Guinn, and the members of the St. Mary's Episcopal School of Memphis Mock Trial Team upon winning the 2008 State Championship and extend to them our best wishes for every future success.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.